

SEPTEMBER

Magic Lantern Society

NEWS 2025



Be Sure to LOOK for those Buttons and
roll-over effects

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Click on Slide to see some
travel slides!



The Magic Lantern Calendar –September 2025

Events

Oct. 10-12, 2025, **Magic Lantern Show**, Matt Schnittker at Gold Rush Live at Marshall gold Discovery State Park, 310 Back Street, Coloma CA 95613.

Oct. 18, 2025, **Autumn meeting**, Magic Lantern Society (UK), Swedenborg Hall, 20-21 Bloomsbury Way, London WC1A 2TH, England.

Dec. 15, 2025, **Christmas Magic Lantern Show**, featuring Dr. Nick Hiley, Salvation Army Hall, Alma Parade, Scarborough YO11 1SJ, U.K.

Through 2025, **Project Space Residency**, featuring Melissa Ferrari, Visual Studies Workshop, 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY 14607.

Jan. 25, 2026, **2026 Annual General Meeting**, Magic Lantern Society (UK), Musical Museum, Brentford, London, England.

Apr. 23-26, 2026, **21 st International Convention of the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada**, Toronto, CA. Save the Date – more information coming soon!

Sundays through Thursdays, **Salem on Foot: Magic Lantern Tour**, rare and strange images projected upon shadowy walls and darkened streets, bringing life to tales of ghosts and witchcraft and murder. Derby Square, Downtown Salem, MA.

Exhibits

Through Aug. 17, 2025, **Words and Wonder: Rediscovering Children's Literature**, a rare look at juvenilia including magic lantern slides from Aesop's Fables, Harry Ransom Center, University of Texas at Austin, 300 West 21 st St., Austin, TX 78712.

Through Aug. 31, 2025, **Magic Lanterns of the Meiji Era: Sono's Magic Lantern Art**, JCII Building, 25 Ichiban-cho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0082, Japan.

Through mid-October, **Portraits from the Past Exhibition**, historic portraits taken across the world, told through the lens of a magic lantern, Fair Maid's House, 15-19 North Port, Perth, Australia.

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Calendar –continued

Through Dec. 28, 2026, **Im Zauber Des Lichts, Bilderwelten der Latera Magica**, an overview of children's slides production in Germany with examples from the beginnings in the 1780s to the 1930s, with children's lanterns from the same period, with their boxes, Freilichtmuseum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 61267 Neu-Anspach, Germany.

Through Dec. 29. 2025, **Im Zauber des Lichts – Bildrewelten der Laterna Magica: Magic Lantern and Toy Lantern Slide exhibition**, Freilicht-museum Hessenpark, Laubweg 5, 6126 Neu-Anspach/Taunus, Germany.

Ongoing, **Te Manawa Magic Box**, hands-on learning for all ages, Te Puawananga Science and Technology Centre, Museum of Transport and Technology, 805 Great North Road & 98 Motions Road, Western Springs, Auckland 1022, New Zealand.

Ongoing, **Kent Museum of the Moving Image**, newly exhibit about World War One in film and media, and Peeping and Projecting looking at peep-hole cinema. Stanhope Road, Deal, Kent CT14 6AD UK.

Online

Magic Lantern Research Group, Learn about, collaborate on academic research. Monthly on Zoom, Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

Magic Lantern Performing Group, Improve your skills every other Wednesday on Zoom. Contact Terry Borton: tborton@magiclanternshows.com

Media History Digital Library, <https://mediahistoryproject.org/collections/magic-lantern/> Magic lantern ephemera.

De Luikerwaal Dutch Virtual Museum, <https://www.luikerwaal.com/> Magic lantern history, pictures, stories.

Lucerna – the Magic Lantern Web Resource, online database collaboration covering all aspects of magic lanterns. <http://lucerna.exeter.ac.uk/>

The Museum of American Magic Lantern Shows, 5-minute intro, 10-minute Highlights Tour, 30-minute In-Depth Tour and Kids' Page. www.magiclanternmuseum.com

To add your magic lantern show, exhibition, or other event to our calendar, or to list your show for potential bookings, drop a line to briandrogers@gmail.com.



2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**April 23-26th, 2026
- Toronto, Canada.**



The Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada

is pleased to invite proposals for our 21st International Convention Immersive Screen Arts: Projecting, Collaborating, Creating -

We invite proposals from artists, performers, researchers, educators, students, archivists, and collectors on the magic lantern and other related visual entertainments. Proposals that cross-pollinate and blend analogue and digital media and use the vibrant storytelling and immersive practices of magic lantern projection and adjacent media to dialogue with contemporary political, social, and environmental issues are especially welcome.

Presentation topics might include, but are not limited to ...

- Traditional lantern shows and re-enactments
 - Original research or research-creation performances and workshops on
 - magic lantern history
 - 19th-century screen practice
 - slides, exhibitors, and showmanship
 - Canadian magic lantern heritage
 - Indigenous perspectives and narratives
 - Global case studies and peep-practices
 - panorama slides, moving panoramas, dioramas, cosmoramas, pleoramas
 - immersive spectacles, lantern technology and early cinema
 - lantern stereoscopes, stereoscopic lantern pictures, stereomania
 - 3D anaglyph shadow projection
 - 3D augmented reality
 - light and shadow work
 - shadowgraphy
 - Immersive color - slide painting, autochromes, Ives's; Kromoskop, Kodachrome
 - painting with light, projection photography
 - creative, artistic re-use and re-imagining of hand-painted antique glass slides
 - creative, artistic re-use and re-imagining of 35mm slides
 - lantern in education
 - lantern and the Victorian technological imagination
 - sensorial immersion, from the lantern to VR, AR, 360 degree video, video games
 - immersive storytelling
 - the art of projection and the avant-garde
- We welcome other presentations related to the convention theme or the Black Creek exhibition "Invented: Propelled by Imagination"

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2026 CALL FOR PROPOSALS continued

Conference Venue:

Performances, presentations and workshops will be held Friday and Saturday at the Village at Black Creek, one of Canada's premiere living history museums. Additional programming will be held Sunday morning at York University's Executive Learning Centre. We will also have rehearsals, set up and possibly a workshop at the Village Thursday afternoon. The audience will primarily be members of the Society, although the general public and guests are also invited.

You do not need to be a member of the society to submit a proposal!

We welcome all presentations that further the stated purposes of the Society:

1. To support and promote education through exhibitions and shows, or other suitable means, that inform the public about the history and development of magic lanterns, lantern slides, related material, and their methods of use.

2. To support the collecting, preservation, researching, cataloging, restoration, and care of magic lanterns, lantern slides, and related material, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Source Material:

Presenters are encouraged to use original source material, i.e. original lantern slides projected using a magic lantern, in a manner appropriate to the historical nature of the slides. If reproductions or copies of slides are used, that should be clearly stated.

The Society recognizes the difficulties and hazards of traveling with original source materials. If a digital projection method is proposed, presenters are strongly encouraged to incorporate a few original sides into their presentation to illustrate original format, quality, colors, and special effects.

The length of conference presentations varies. Generally:

- Performances and events are 10 to 50 minutes with extra time for setup.
- Workshops are 90 minutes.
- Research and academic presentations are 20 minutes with 15 minutes for Q&A.
- Longer and shorter presentations will be considered based on the overall convention schedule and the subject matter proposed. If you propose a longer presentation, please specify the proposed length of your presentation.
- Exhibitions and Poster Sessions - in-person poster presentations are also encouraged.

Proposal Requirements and Deadline:

Please submit a brief description of your proposed presentation topic (short paragraph) and a brief bio (3-5 sentences) by email to Janelle Blankenship by **Sept. 26th, 2025.**

We will contact you if additional information is needed regarding content, technical or logistical requirements etc. Proposals will be reviewed in October and notices sent out by November 2025. Please note that it may not be possible to accept all proposals.

Janelle Blankenship:
blankenship.office@gmail.com

INFORMATION

Wanted

About Identity of W L P



From David Evans

"I acquired a slide carrier on eBay recently. It is the kind where a slide is in place for projection and a second one is slid in front of it and the original one withdrawn - not an uncommon arrangement. This one achieves it in a rather different manner and is marked 'W. L. P., Patent Appd'. Whether or not one was granted is currently unknown, by me at least. I have been unable to discover the identity of W L P, but hope someone else may know who this was. As it takes 3 1/4" square slides it is presumably British. If so, please let me know!"

Regards

David
DWinwoodEvans@aol.com



Interest in Purchasing a Solar System Lantern Slide

From Darby Ronning

dhronning@gmail.com

Hello! I am writing my master's thesis on representations of the solar system in the 19th century, and I am interested in acquiring a lantern slide of the solar system that I can use in public presentations. I am looking for a model that is similar to this one from the Royal Museums at Greenwich, though it doesn't have to be exactly the same. I would like an example with rack work, though the particular maker isn't important to me.

Is there a list of your members that I could contact saying that I'm interested in purchasing a lantern slide? Thank you so much.

Darby Ronning

Hello Darby

That is a very desirable slide and was part of a set on the solar system. It is possible that a member may have an orphaned one. We will add your request to our September e-publication and hope that someone may be able to help.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans



Slide image from



<https://www.rmg.co.uk/collections/objects/rmgc-object-11260>

INFORMATION

Wanted

Wants Suggestions About Recently Acquired Slides

From Nicole Figley

nfigley4@yahoo.com

Magic Lantern Society,
I hope this message finds you well. I am reaching out to seek your expertise regarding a collection of early 20th-century magic lantern slides and related family memorabilia that I currently have in my possession.

The collection includes 4 complete sets of magic lantern slides (in the original boxes and each set includes about 16-18 slides with very few having cracks) dating from around 1911-1912, which accompany songs by Arthur Longbrake, a vaudeville-era composer. Alongside the slides, I also have original sheet music (one of the sheet music has the same title as one of the boxes of slides) and recently learned of the family connection to Arthur Longbrake so have family photographs featuring Arthur Longbrake, his wife Nina Hart (a descendant of John Hart, signer of the Declaration of Independence), and her siblings.

Given the historical and personal significance of these items, I would greatly appreciate any advice or resources you could provide regarding identification, preservation, and potential appraisal of the slides and accompanying materials. Additionally, if there are any experts or institutions you could recommend for further assistance, that would be extremely helpful.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I look forward to your guidance.

Warm regards,

Nicole Figley
Located in Arizona
480-239-6952



Family Connection: My husband father, William Figley, recently passed and found the items when going through boxes of his things. His father was James George Figley, who is the son of Anson and Nora Figley. Nora is one of 8 children of George and Etta Hart (who are related to John Hart who signed the declaration of independence). They had 7 other children besides Nora. One of the children is Nina Hart who was married to Arthur Longbrake making Arthur my husbands great great uncle.

“Petty” some cracks on 4 of 16 pictures copyright 1911 also have a paper with cover and sheet music to go with it.

continued next page

About Recently Acquired Slides continued

From Nicole Figley
nfigley4@yahoo.com

I very much appreciate the response!!
Here is more specifics about the slides
with their titles and details. I also took
some pictures and a video to show
more of what we have. I am also
including a picture of Arthur Longbreak
with his wife Nina (Hart) and a pic of
them with Nina's siblings and their
spouses. Arthur would be my husbands
great great uncle.



Arthur Longbreak with his wife Nina (Hart)

Additional Items in Collection

“Evening breeze” copyright 1912 has 16 glass pictures all in mint condition.

“Stop look listen” Harry F. Stains Co 2220-22 Federal St Camden NJ 18 glass pictures none broken and says all of the pictures are from Harry F. Stains life

“Here’s to you little girl” with 16 glass pictures with 4 cracked ones copyright 1911



Arthur Longbreak with his wife Nina with Nina's siblings and their spouses

continued next page

About Recently Acquired Slides continued

Any help or information would be great!! Thank you very much for responding!

Nicole Figley
Wife of Matthew Figley
480-239-6952



Few images of the sheet music items from Arthur Longbreak



From David Evans

Dear Nicole

This does sound like a most interesting collection and of considerable historic interest. We will include it in our next e-publication (September as the August one was rather full) and I have no doubt that some of our members will recognise these names rather better than I do (I'm Brit/Canadian!) and will have suggestions for you. Apart from the monetary value, these should be preserved as a collection in my opinion.

As a society, we do not do appraisals, but it may well be that one of our members may be able to help you in that connection.

Meanwhile, don't expose the slides to sunlight!

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

About Collection of Slides

From Amber Janz

amber_janz@outlook.com

Hey!

My father has given me lots of slides that are in pretty good condition (as far as I think anyway). I was wondering if I could talk to someone directly about the ones I have? I have lots of Shakespeare, Jack and the bean stock, and others. Not sure what to do with them! Would love some Guidance

Here is the pictures.
cinderella, Jack and the bean stock,
Shakespeare.
Wanting to sell. I don't know how
much they are worth though.

Brandon, MB Canada

Thank you.



Children's
Lantern
Slides



continued next page

About Collection of Slides continued

Jack and
the bean
stock



From David Evans

Hi Amber

If you could let me have a list of the sets you have and perhaps a few photos we can include them in our next e-publication (September) and it may well be that some of our members may have suggestions. If there is information about the identity of the slide makers on any of them that would be of interest too. If you want to keep them, we could certainly offer suggestions about storage, conservation etc, but if you wanted to sell them. again it is possible that one of our members might be interested. It would help to know whereabouts you are located, as it could be that we may have a member local to you who could offer assistance.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

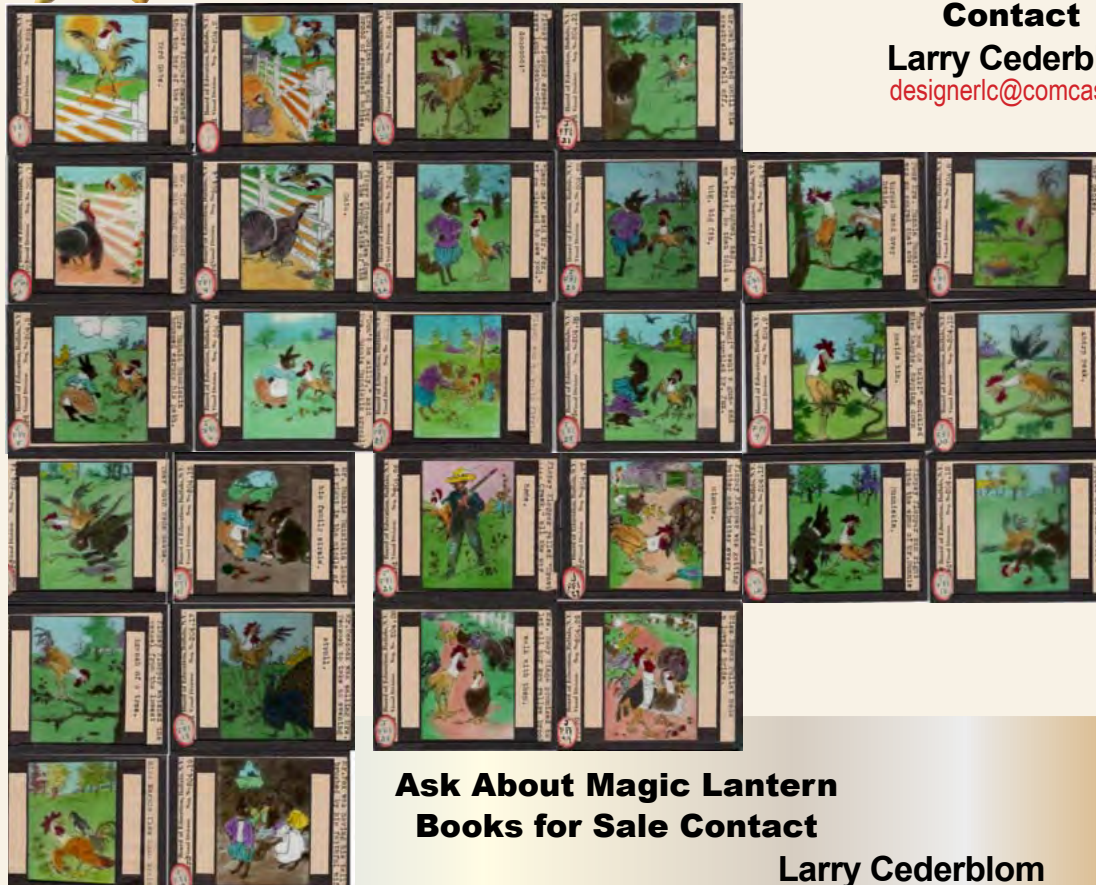
Cinderella





Sale Items

Flappy Flopper of the Farmyard



Contact

Larry Cederblom
designerlc@comcast.net

\$ 100
PLUS SHIPPING

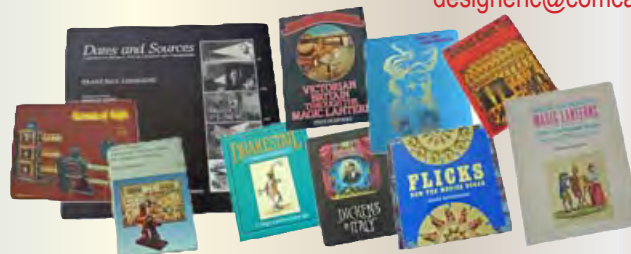


Set of 29 slides
with original box
Missing # 11

From the
Board of Education
Buffalo NY
Vision Divison

Ask About Magic Lantern Books for Sale Contact

Larry Cederblom
designerlc@comcast.net



A Big Thank You to the following:

Janelle Blankenship
David Evans
Nicole Figley
Amber Janz
Brian Rogers
Darby Ronning

**for contributing
to this months issue.**